

Petition for Waiver of OFDM UWB Measurement Procedures
ET Docket No. 04-352
DA 04-2793

The WiMedia Alliance is a not-for-profit Industry Alliance with the mission to promote UWB-based Wireless Personal Area Networks. WiMedia has over 25 Member companies from the consumer electronics, semiconductor and mobile devices industries, including Hewlett-Packard Company, STMicroelectronics, Philips, Sharp Labs America and Samsung Electronics Company.

The WiMedia Alliance has endorsed the ultra-wideband (UWB) specifications coming from the MBOA-SIG (multi-band orthogonal frequency division multiplexing or 'MB-OFDM'). Similarly, the WiMedia Alliance officially supports a waiver of certain FCC measurement procedures and policies for MB-OFDM UWB devices. Such a waiver would provide a means for WiMedia Members to move as quickly as possible to commercialization of UWB-based products.

The WiMedia Alliance is creating a 'radio convergence platform' which will enable various application entities to share the UWB channel under a framework of fairness. The combination of the convergence platform and application entities is referred to as the UWB ecosystem. This ecosystem targets consumer electronics, computing and mobile market segments.

Both the 1394-TA and the Wireless-USB Promoters Group have endorsed this WiMedia convergence platform as a foundation for the UWB ecosystem. We are in close technical collaboration with both groups in order to meet their needs.

WiMedia will also create a protocol adaptation to UPnP/IP such that IP-based application protocols (such as those of the Digital Living Network Alliance) can seamlessly ride on this UWB platform and coexist within the UWB ecosystem.

Finally, WiMedia will be the entity which will formulate and implement a certification program for devices within that ecosystem, in conjunction with the application protocol brands (W-USB, W-1394, and WiMedia/DLNA).

Many WiMedia Members have evaluated the MB-OFDM specifications and believe that this is technically the best approach to serve the challenging needs of the UWB ecosystem. This led to our endorsement of the MB-OFDM specifications earlier this year.

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